IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph at column 1, lines 25-35 as follows:

In recent years, a magnetooptical recording medium has become a subject of attention in the field of a rewritable recording method of high recording density. In such a recording method, information or data is recorded in the recording medium by forming a magnetic domain in a magnetic film of the medium by means of thermal energy of laser beams emitted from a semiconductor laser, and information is read out from the medium, utilizing magneto-optical effect. The above-noted trend is based on need for a larger amount of recording capacity to be achieved by higher recording density of such a recording medium.

Please amend the paragraph at column 2, line 32-37 as follows:

However, in such a super-resolution medium comprising the in-plane magnetization film, only the high-temperature area within a light spot is a reproducible area. It is thus difficult to stably provide a reproduction area having a predetermined space, and signal output is possibly decreased because the reproduction area is at the edge of the light spot.

Please amend the paragraph at column ~~8, line 2~~ 7, line 58 to column 8, line 14 as follows:

Although, in the above description, it is assumed for convenience sake that the width of the interface magnetic domain walls between the readout layer and the recording layer can be neglected, the above description applies to a case where the interface magnetic domain walls enter the readout layer to have a thickness which cannot be neglected. However, when the interface magnetic domain walls between the readout layer and the recording layer occur on the side of the readout layer, magnetization of the recording layer is transferred to a portion of the readout layer, as in the state of spin orientation schematically shown in FIGS. 7(a) and 7(b). If the interface magnetic domain walls become too thick, therefore, it is difficult to completely mask magnetization information recorded in the recording layer. It is thus preferable to thicken the readout layer or increase the in-plane anisotropy in the low-temperature region.

Please amend the paragraph at column 9, lines 48-51 as follows:

FIGS. 10(a) through 10(c)1 [shows] show an example of temperature tendencies of saturation magnetization of the readout layer, the intermediate layer and the recording layer, which satisfy the above conditions.

Please amend the paragraph at column 10, lines 56-67 as follows:

Results of measurement of recording-reproducing characteristics of the magnetooptical recording medium were as follows. A measuring instrument comprised an objective lens of 0.55 N.A. and a projector for outputting a laser beam of 780 mm wavelength. Power for recording was preset at 8 mW, and linear velocity was 9 m/sec. Then, 6-15 MHz carrier signal was recorded in the recording layer by using a field modulation system in which a magnetic field of ± 2000 e was applied [stepwise] stepwise. The dependency of C/N ratio on the recorded mark length was measured. The reproducing power was set to a value (2.5 to 3.5 mW) so that C/N ratio is maximized.

Please amend the paragraph at Column 12, line 21, "to" should read --so--.

The composition of the TbFeCo recording layer was set [to] so that the layer is TM-rich and has a saturation magnetization of 200 emu/cc, and its Curie temperature is 220° C.